



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
901 NORTH 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

DEC 19 2005

Edward Galbraith, Director
Water Pollution Control Program
Water Protection and Soil Conservation Division
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Dear Mr. Galbraith:

Re: Approval of Main Ditch TMDL

This letter responds to the submission from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) dated November 16, 2005, of the Main Ditch Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) document which contains TMDLs for Low Dissolved Oxygen(LDO), Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), and Volatile Suspended Solids (VSS). Main Ditch was identified on the 2002 Missouri §303(d) lists as impaired as a result of the Poplar Bluff Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). LDO, BOD, and VSS are allocated in the TMDL document to address these impairments. The concentration based waste load allocations identified in the TMDL will be implemented with the reissuance of Poplar Bluff's WWTP National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. The specific impairments (water body segment and pollutant) are:

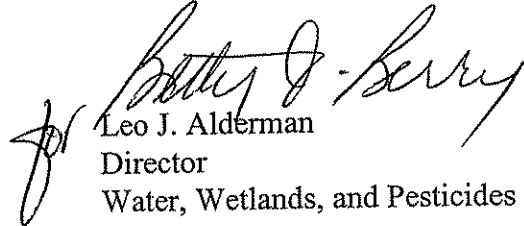
Water Body Name	WBID	Listed pollutant	TMDL pollutant
Main Ditch	2814	LDO, BOD and VSS	LDO, BOD & VSS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed its review of these TMDLs with supporting documentation and information. By this letter, EPA approves the submitted TMDLs for Main Ditch. Enclosed with this letter is an EPA TMDL Review Form which summarizes the rationale for EPA's approval of the TMDLs. EPA believes the separate elements of the TMDLs described in the enclosed form adequately address the pollutants of concern, taking into consideration seasonal variation and a margin of safety.

EPA is currently in consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding this TMDL. While EPA is approving these TMDLs at the present time, EPA may decide that changes to the TMDLs are warranted based upon the results of the consultation when it is completed.

We appreciate the thoughtful effort that MDNR has put into these TMDLs. We will continue to cooperate with and assist, as appropriate, in future efforts by MDNR to develop the remaining TMDLs. If you have any questions, please contact John DeLashmit, Branch Chief, Water Quality Management Branch, at (913)551-7821.

Sincerely,


Leo J. Alderman
Director
Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division

Enclosure

cc: Ann Crawford
MO Department of Natural Resources

Phil Schroeder
MO Department of Natural Resources

Scott Dye
Sierra Club